

Good afternoon,

Hartford Public Schools operates 6 school-based health centers funded by the State of Connecticut. We provide crucial services to students during their school day by achieving the following important goals:

- Increasing access to health care for all students.
- Ensuring school readiness for all students.
- Identifying and better understanding the health needs of students to promote student attendance and decrease absenteeism.
- Maintaining students' optimal health to assure that mental and physical health issues do not impede the learning process.
- Acting as a bridge to care, ensuring that every child has an identifiable source for primary care.
- Providing early detection of physical and mental problems in order to prevent/reduce the impact of acute and chronic conditions.
- Initiating treatment where appropriate, arranging follow-up appointments, and promoting compliance with treatment as detailed in protocol.
- Empowering children to assume responsibility for their own health and well-being.
- Maximizing the coordination of school health services.
- Ensuring the safety and well-being of all students.

Research has demonstrated that school-based health centers represent cost-effective investments of public resources by reducing the number of emergency room visits.

We treat students in school, thereby saving large numbers of educational hours that would otherwise be missed for outside appointments.

I am very proud of the work we do every day with our students and would love to share it with you firsthand. I urge you to continue funding school-based health centers so that we can keep providing these important services to our students.

Thank you,

Deb

Deborah Chameides
Health Services Coordinator
Hartford Public Schools
960 Main Street
Hartford, Ct. 06103
Tel# 860-695-8760
Fax#860-722-8095

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Health Services Coordinator
Hartford Public Schools
960 Main Street
Hartford, Ct. 06103
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Fax#860-722-8095